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Man Pleads Not Guilty to DUI Crash in Rowland Heights

A 21-year-old man accused of driving drunk and crashing his car, which resulted in the serious injury of another, pleaded not guilty today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Pierr Gonzalez-Garcia (dob 11/16/92) of Compton is charged with one felony count each of driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage causing injury and driving with a .08% blood alcohol level causing injury in case KA106902.

The felony complaint includes several special allegations, including that the defendant personally inflicted great bodily injury causing the victim to become comatose. Also, that the concentration of blood alcohol was 0.15% by weight and more, and the defendant was driving at an excessive speed.

Deputy District Attorney Lauren Guber, who is prosecuting the case, said on the evening of Aug. 1, Gonzalez-Garcia reportedly drove at an excessive speed on Pathfinder Road in Rowland Heights when he crashed into the victim's car.

The prosecutor said the victim, an 18-year-old man, suffered numerous serious injuries, including multiple facial and body fractures, and a traumatic injury to his brain.

Following the crash, authorities were called and Gonzalez-Garcia was later arrested.

The defendant's next court appearance is scheduled for Oct. 23 for a pre-preliminary hearing at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Pomona in Department N.

If convicted as charged, he faces a maximum sentence of eight years in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the California Highway Patrol.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's OfficeLos Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.